

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings in the application:

Claim 1 (presently amended): A member for supporting a pack, bag or other article about the waist and/or hips of the wearer of the pack, bag or other article, the member defining a pair of arms adapted to engage the waist and/or hips of the wearer and being made of a flexible core material which allows [allowing] the shape of said arms to be changed along the length thereof so as to allow said arms to be manipulated into [a] at least a first selected bent and curved position against the waist and/or hips of the wearer and further said flexible core material of said arms allowing [adapted] said arms to independently retain said at least first selected bent and curved position when said arms are released by the wearer .

Claim 2 (cancelled): The member of claim 1 wherein said arms include a flexible core.

Claim 3 (cancelled): The member of claim 1 wherein the pack, bag or other article includes a front face and defines an interior, said arms being adapted to extend through respective openings defined in the front face of the pack, bag or other article.

Claim 4 (cancelled): The member of claim 1 wherein the pack, bag or other article includes a front face and defines an interior, the member further comprising a base interconnecting said pair of arms, the member being adapted to be positioned within the interior of the pack, bag or other article in a relationship wherein said base is located within the interior and the arms extend through respective openings defined in the front face of the pack, bag or other article.

Claim 5 (original): The member of claim 1 wherein a strap interconnects the arms and is adapted to move the arms towards each other when the pack, bag or other article is mounted over the back of the wearer.

Claim 6 (cancelled): The member of claim 1 wherein the pack, bag or other article is a golf bag adapted to be carried in a generally horizontal orientation and includes an outer surface and a handle, the member being adapted to

be suspended from the handle of the golf bag and the arms being manipulable into a flexed engaged position against the waist and/or hips of the wearer.

Claim 7 (presently amended): ~~The member of claim 6~~ A member for supporting a golf bag adapted to be carried in a generally horizontal relationship about the waist and/or hips of a wearer of the golf bag, the golf bag including an outer surface and a handle, the member being adapted to be suspended from the handle of the golf bag and defining a pair of arms adapted to engage the waist and/or hips of the wearer and being made of a flexible material allowing said arms to be manipulated into a flexed position against the waist and/or hips of the wearer and further adapted to retain said position when released by the wearer, the member further comprising an elongate flexible core surrounded by a sleeve including a tongue adapted to be wrapped around the handle of the golf bag for securing the member to the golf bag.

Claim 8 (cancelled): The member of claim 1 wherein the pack, bag or other article is a golf bag adapted to be carried in a generally vertical orientation, the golf bag including a front face and the arms of the member extending outwardly from the front face and being manipulable into a flexed engaged position against the waist and/or hips of the wearer.

Claim 9 (presently amended): A pack adapted to be suspended from the shoulders of a wearer, the pack including a shell defining a hollow interior [and] , a front face having a pair of openings defined therein, and a pair of sleeves extending outwardly from the front face thereof in the region of said openings defined therein, the pack further comprising a support member located within the interior of the pack and defining a pair of arms extending through the shell and said pair of sleeves defined in said pack respectively and adapted to engage the waist and/or hips of the wearer, the arms being made of a flexible material allowing the arms to be manipulated into a selected position about the waist and/or hips of the wearer and further adapted to retain said manipulated position when released by the wearer.

Claim 10 (cancelled): The pack of claim 9 wherein the shell of the pack defines a front face having a pair of openings defined therein, said pair of arms protruding through said pair of openings respectively.

Claim 11 (cancelled): The pack of claim 10 further including a pair of sleeves extending outwardly from the front face thereof in the region of said openings defined therein, said pair of arms extending through said pair of sleeves respectively.

Claim 12 (original): The pack of claim 9 wherein a strap interconnects and extends between said arms, said strap being adapted to engage against the back of the wearer and bring said arms together into engagement against the waist and/or hips of the wearer.

Claim 13 (original): The pack of claim 9 wherein said support member is an elongate flexible rod.

Claim 14 (original): The pack of claim 13 wherein the rod is made of a flexible core material.

Claim 15 (original): The pack of claim 13 further including a bottom panel and the rod extending along the bottom panel in a generally "U" shaped configuration.

Claim 16 (presently amended): ~~An article~~ A back pack adapted to be carried by an individual and defining an outer surface, a front face, a pair of sleeves protruding outwardly from the front face thereof, a hollow interior and straps for suspending the back pack in an over-the-back relationship, the article back pack including a support member extending through the interior of said back pack and defining a pair of manipulable arms extending outwardly from said front face of said back pack and into said sleeves thereof, said arms being made of a flexible material allowing the support member to be manipulated into a selected position and shape about the waist and/or hips of the individual and further adapted to retain said manipulated position and shape when released by the individual.

Claim 17 (cancelled): The article of claim 16 comprising a back pack defining a hollow interior and including straps for suspending the back pack in an over-the-back relationship, the back pack further including a front face and the support member defining a pair of manipulable arms extending outwardly from said front face.

Claim 18 (cancelled): The article of claim 17 wherein said pack includes a pair of sleeves protruding outwardly from the front face thereof, said arms extending through the interior of said back pack and into said sleeves.

Claim 19 (presently amended): The ~~article~~ back pack of claim [18] 16 wherein a strap interconnects and extends between said arms, said strap being adapted to abut against the back of the individual and bring said arms together.

Claim 20 (cancelled): The article of claim 16 comprising a golf bag defining an outer surface and adapted to be carried in a generally horizontal over-the-back orientation, the support member defining a pair of arms extending away from the outer surface of the golf bag and being manipulable into a flexed position against the waist and/or hips of the individual.

Claim 21 (presently amended): ~~The article of claim 20 wherein~~ A golf bag defining an outer surface and adapted to be carried in a generally horizontal over-the-back orientation, the golf bag including a support member defining a pair of arms extending away from the outer surface of the golf bag and being made of a flexible material allowing the support member to be manipulated into a flexed position and shape about the waist and/or hips of the individual carrying the golf bag and further adapted to retain said manipulated position and shape when released by the individual, the arms further comprise comprising an elongate flexible core surrounded by a sleeve including a tongue adapted to be wrapped around a handle on the golf bag.

Claim 22 (cancelled): The article of claim 16 comprising a golf bag defining a front face and adapted to be carried in a generally vertical over-the-back orientation, the support member defining a pair of arms extending outwardly from the front face and being manipulable into a flexed engaged position against the waist and/or hips of the individual.

Claim 23 (cancelled): The article of claim 22 wherein a strap interconnects the arms, the strap being adapted to engage against the back of the individual and bring said arms together when the golf bag is mounted over the back of the individual.

Claim 24 (presently amended): ~~The article of claim 23 wherein~~ A golf bag defining a front face and adapted to be carried in a generally vertical over-the-back orientation, the golf bag including a support member defining a pair of arms extending outwardly from the front face of the golf bag and being made of a flexible material allowing the support member to be manipulated into a selected flexed position and shape against the waist and/or hips of the individual carrying the

golf bag, the golf bag further comprising a strap interconnecting the arms of the support member and adapted to engage against the back of the individual carrying the golf bag and bring said arms together when the golf bag is mounted over the back of the individual, the golf bag still further comprising a pair of straps extend extending between the ends of the arms respectively and the outer surface of the golf bag, said straps being adapted to restrict the upward movement of said arms relative to the outer surface of the golf bag.